

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested, if view of the following remarks.

As mentioned on page 5 of the specification, the nutrition bars of the present invention are formulated to include elevated levels of protein yet to not suffer unacceptably from deterioration in taste or other organoleptic properties, such as browning, over time.

Maxwell et al. US 6,063,432 is directed to health bars having high dosages of L-arginine and/or L-lysine. The Office indicates that Maxwell et al. do not disclose use of nuggets.

In addition, the Office points to no teaching by Maxwell et al. of many other features recited in the claims such as the presence of glycerol, transition metal/compound in substantially water insoluble form, and transitional metal encapsulated. Although the Office appears to asserts that Maxwell et al. disclose encapsulation, it is submitted that while Maxwell et al. disclose materials which might be used for encapsulation, that is not the same thing as disclosing encapsulation.

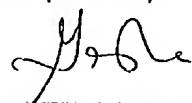
Cook et al. US 4,451,488 is directed to a shelf stable, intermediate moisture food bar having a soft and chewy texture using at least two polyhydric alcohols. The Office points to no discussion of incorporation of protein nuggets or of other features recited in the claims such as transition metal/compound in substantially water insoluble form, and transitional metal encapsulated.

Although the Office argues otherwise, it is submitted that it has not been established that all it would be obvious to employ all ingredients previously disclosed for use in nutrition bars and thereby obtain a high protein bar containing transition metals which

bar does not suffer unacceptably from deterioration in taste or other organoleptic properties, such as browning, over time, even less features such as transition metal/compounds in substantially water insoluble form, and transitional metals which are encapsulated.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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